

Agenda with Annotated Minutes

Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) Council

Thursday, July 24, 2003, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Room 3452 - MIB

Welcome (Trujillo)

Mike Trujillo opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The Participant List is attached.

Introduction of the new DASHO's (Trujillo)

Mike Trujillo introduced Bruce Blanchard, the newly assigned DASHO for BIA, and announced that Karen Taylor-Goodrich is the new DASHO for NPS. Darlene Carter who was the acting DASHO for OSM is now the DASHO. Mike indicated that he has been working with BLM to designate a permanent DASHO.

Safety and Health Performance Statistics:

Quarterly Statistics (Kaas and Rueff, via conference call)

Mike Kaas distributed a quarterly statistics package prepared by Ken Rueff, explained the charts, and answered questions. (See Attachment 1)

Performance Measures Presentation (Part of Griles Presentation) (Kaas)

Mike Kaas provided a copy of the "Safety and Health Performance Measures FY 2002" presentation to each participant (See Attachment 2). A general discussion of Workers Compensation (OWCP) costs followed. It was observed that there are financial incentives that keep OWCP recipients on the rolls. These include survivor benefits and nontaxable benefits. Legislative changes would be required to move OWCP recipients into the normal Federal Retirement Programs (CSRS or FERS) when they are eligible. OMB might oppose such a proposal. Mike Trujillo stated his intention to form a task force on OWCP. Council members suggested that it look at best practices from the private sector.

Griles Presentation (Draft) (Kaas)

Mike Kaas provided the DASHO's with a draft of the upcoming presentation for Deputy Secretary Griles, "Department of the Interior Safety and Health Briefing: Performance Measures, Challenges, Solutions" (See Attachment 3). The presentation led into the discussion

of the following Agenda item. Note: The actual briefing for Deputy Secretary Griles took place on August 12, 2003.

Discussion by DASHO's on How Council Can Be Most Effective. (All)

The Council members discussed the challenge of creating a more favorable safety and health culture throughout Interior. It was suggested that bringing about cultural change will require continuous, quarterly involvement at the senior political and career management levels. Accountability will be critical if we are to improve our overall safety record.

Presentation of Proposed FY 2004 Safety and Health Initiatives (Rowley)

Linda Rowley, Chair of the Safety and Health Council, proposed four Department-wide initiatives for approval by the Council (See Attachments 4-7). The approved initiatives would receive funding in FY 2004 from the \$400,000 Safety and Health Initiative Account in the Working Capital Fund. Originally thirteen proposals were reviewed and these four were selected. Bill Miller, Mike Kaas, and Linda Rowley discussed the initiatives, associated costs, and addressed questions and concerns raised by the Council members.

DOIU Safety Training (Miller)

Department-wide Safety and Health Performance Awards (Kaas)

Department-wide Safety Awareness Campaigns (Kaas)

Department of the Interior Safety and Health Career Program Plan (Rowley)

Approval of Initiatives (All DASHOs)

The Council approved the following FY 2004 Occupational Safety and Health initiatives; "DOIU Safety Training," "Department-wide Safety Awareness Campaigns," and "Department-wide Safety and Health Performance Awards."

The Council tabled consideration of the "Department of the Interior Safety and Health Career Program Plan," until Linda Rowley is able to review the current MMS intern program and provide additional data. Linda Rowley will plan to provide information to the DASHO Council at the next meeting. The Council also requested a spreadsheet showing funding for past initiatives (See Attachment 8).

Funding of Initiatives (Rowley)

Bob Brown had previously suggested that the DASHO Council discuss the possibility of increasing the current Working Capital Fund amount of \$400,000, in order to support additional initiatives and because of the loss of purchasing power since the fund was originally established in the mid-1990's. Due to time constraints and Bob's absence, the Council will consider this issue at the next DASHO Council meeting.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Update (Trujillo)

Mike Trujillo stressed the continuing need for all of the law enforcement and security, human resources, and safety and health organizations concerned with emergency management to keep in close communication.

Roundtable and Items since Publication of Agenda (All)

Due to time constraints this discussion was abbreviated. Bob Galloway, Safety Manager, OAS, provided a short progress update on the Interagency Aviation Training Program which was partially funded as a DASHO Council initiative (See Attachment 9).

Next Meeting, Thursday, October 30, 2003, Washington, D.C. (Trujillo)

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, October 30, 2003, from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM, in room 7000B, MIB.

Participant List

Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO) Council

Thursday, July 24, 2003

Mike Trujillo - OS, DOI DASHO

Mike Kaas - OS, MRPS, Director

Diane Schmitz - OS, MRPS, Deputy DASHO and Safety and Health Manager

Bruce Blanchard - BIA, DASHO

Bruce Prater - BLM, Acting DASHO and Safety Manager

Larry Todd - BOR, DASHO

Linda Rowley - BOR, Safety Manager, and Chair, Safety and Health Council

Dave Holland - FWS (Representing Paul Henne, FWS DASHO)

Mary Parkinson - FWS, Safety Manager

Bob Pope - MMS, (Representing Bob Brown, DASHO)

Jim Rossi - MMS, Acting Safety Manager

Dick Powell - NPS, Safety Manager, (Representing Karen Taylor-Goodrich, NPS, DASHO)

Darlene Carter - OSM, DASHO

William Bass - OSM, Safety Manager

Keith Anderson - USGS, Alternate DASHO

Bill Miller - USGS, Safety Manager

Robyn Ball - OIG (Representing Charles McLane, OIG, DASHO)

Carl Messick - OS, NBC, Safety Manager

Bob Galloway - OS, OAS, Aviation Safety Manager

Attachment 1

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

Attachment 4

Attachment 5

Attachment 6

Attachment 7

Attachment 8

Attachment 9

Information Items

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